

Seeking Proposals: *Bike Culture*

University of California, Riverside's Sweeney Art Gallery is seeking proposals from artists, filmmakers, designers, performers, urban planners, interventionists, activists, and bike aficionados for *Bike Culture*, the gallery's inaugural exhibition in its new location at UCR's Culver Center of the Arts. Proposals may take the form of original work or documentation, 2-D, 3-D, video, and/or public programming and events, such as screenings, public actions, and performances that can take place indoors or outdoors. Preference is for work easily transportable or located in Southern California for pick up.

Exploring the effects of bikes on art and culture, *Bike Culture* includes customized bikes, bike designs, and artist projects that use the bicycle and human-powered machines as both metaphors and realizations for restructuring human habitats. In the past few years, bicycle activists, advocates, and aficionados have proven to be vociferous in their desire for reimagining the urban landscape in the U.S. It is a reflection of a shifting value system that looks towards alternate means of transportation, the promotion of healthy lifestyles, and a cultural shift from consumption to sustainability. Organized by UCR Sweeney Art Gallery.

The exhibition inaugurates UCR Sweeney Art Gallery's new space in UCR's Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts, both of which open to the public with a gala weekend, October 7-9, 2010. Sweeney and Culver are located on a downtown pedestrian wall, located next door to UCR's California Museum of Photography. The exhibition coincides with Riverside's inaugural 2010 Riverside Citrus Classic Bike Run on October 17, 2010.

Timeline

- Proposals received: June 25, 2010
- Checklist finalized: July 2010
- Latest work received: August 2010
- Installation dates: September 2010
- **Exhibition Dates: October 7, 2010-January 1, 2011**
- Reception date: Thursday, October 7, 6-8 PM, First Thursday Artwalk and first day of gala weekend opening for The Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts

Contact

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Facade of Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts, located in downtown Riverside, on Main Street pedestrian mall, which houses Sweeney Art Gallery.



Interior, forty-foot atrium at center of building, with enclosed gallery at rear, 80-seat screening room, and café on ground floor. Top floor is research lab for UCR faculty and students. Basement is for ARTSblock permanent collection and support.

Confirmed work in exhibition as examples representing diverse approaches towards the theme



ART/URBAN PLANNING: Folke K bberling and Martin Kaltwasser, *Cars into Bicycles*, 2010. A Saab turbo was converted into two functional bicycles. Their work explores mapping, sustainability, reconfiguring urban space. Since 1998, the two artists have been implementing their concept of an artistic and architectural aesthetic of resistance to consumer ideology. They use streets, squares, bridges, parks and interior spaces as their areas of operation. The artists live and work in Los Angeles and Berlin. They have exhibited extensively in Germany and internationally and were most recently included in the 2009 Architecture Biennial in Sao Paulo and Martha Museum, Herford (Germany), www.koebberlingkaltwasser.de



PUBLIC ACTION: Finishing School, *Little Pharma Drug Run*, 2008. Using materials provided by the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, participants first met to construct costumes modeled on their drug of choice. Finishing School, an artist collaborative, then led a costumed bike tour exploring various drug distribution sites of downtown Los Angeles. Finishing School is an interdisciplinary artist collective that explores contemporary social, political, and environmental issues. Their projects conflate praxis, play, and activism and seek to engage audiences through various participatory models. Finishing School was established in 2001 and is based in Los Angeles, <http://www.finishing-school.net/>



DESIGN INNOVATION: UCR'S Bourns College of Engineering student chapter of ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) competed in the ASME HPV (human powered vehicle) Western Regional Competition at Cal State Northridge April 23-25, 2010. ASME's international Human Powered Vehicle Challenge (HPVC) provides an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate engineering students to demonstrate the application of sound engineering design principles in the development of sustainable and practical transportation alternatives. In the HPVC, students work in teams to design and build efficient, highly engineered vehicles for everyday use-from commuting to work, to carrying goods to market.

Partial list of contemporary individuals and groups under consideration:

Artists:

- Sierra Brown, <http://sierragbrown.com/supercommute.html>
- David Byrne, http://www.davidbyrne.com/art/books/bicycle_diaries/
- Margarita Cabrera, <http://www.margaritacabrera.com/?cat=4>
- Maurizio Cattelan, <http://www.moca.org/museum/exhibitiondetail.php?id=336>
- Krysten Cunningham, <http://krystencunningham.com/Images.html>
- Kevin Cyr, <http://www.kevincyr.net/index.php?/project/camper-bike/>
- Michel de Broin, <http://www.micheldebroin.org/projects/spc/index.html>
- Finishing School, <http://www.finishing-school.net/drug-run.html>
- Folke K bberling & Martin Kaltwasser, <http://www.koebberlingkaltwasser.de/cars-into-bicycles--the-californian-dream.html>
- Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba, <http://www.lehmannmaupin.com/#/artists/jun-nguyen-hatsushiba/>
- Tom Sachs, <http://www.tomsachs.org/work/waffle-bike>
- Lee Tusman, <http://leetusman.com/>

Social activists, urban design, bike groups, new engineering:

- Bamboo bike design, <http://www.calfeedesign.com/bamboo.htm>
- Bicycle Kitchen, <http://www.bicyclekitchen.com/>
- BusCycle, <http://buscycle.com/>
- Center for Appropriate Transport (C.A.T.), <http://www.catoregon.org/>
- Cycledelics Riverside
- Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) competition vehicles, http://www.asme.org/Events/Contests/HPV/Human_Powered_Vehicle.cfm
- Lowrider and customized bikes
- Midnight Ridazz, <http://www.midnightridazz.com/>

Dance, movement:

- The Bicycle Ballet, <http://www.allaboutaudiences.com/forums/topic.aspx?ID=66>
- The Derailleurs, <http://derailleurs.wordpress.com/>
- Gacharinco!, <http://www.candycranks.com/archives/3924>
- The Spokes, <http://thespokes.wordpress.com/about/>

Music, concerts, sound:

- Colin Matthews, Alphabicycle Order, http://www.musicweb-international.com/classrev/2009/May09/Matthews_Alphabicycle_CDHLL7515.htm
- Flib Baber, re-orchestration of the "Nutcracker" suite for bike parts, <http://createdigitalmusic.com/2006/11/28/nutcracker-suite-played-exclusively-on-bicycle-parts/>
- Mauricio Kagel, "Eine Brise", <http://www.mondayeveningconcerts.org/einebrise/>

Feature films:

- American Flyers
- Beijing Bicycle
- Bicycle Thief
- BMX Bandits
- Breaking Away
- The Cyclist
- The Flying Scotsman
- The Long Road North
- Pee-Wee's Big Adventure
- Quicksilver
- Rad

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Recent U.S. exhibitions for context:

- *Bespoke: The Handbuilt Bicycle*, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, May 13 - August 15, 2010, http://collections.madmuseum.org/code/emuseum.asp?emu_action=advsearch&rawsearch=exhibitionid/.i.s./516/.true/.false&profile=exhibitions
- *Bike Rides: The Exhibition*, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT, September 26, 2009 – January 3, 2010, <http://www.aldrichart.org/exhibitions/past/bikes.php>

SWEENEY ART GALLERY'S MOVE

Temporarily closed in anticipation of its pending move, Sweeney will reopen to the public in the new UCR Culver Center of the Arts during a gala event October 7-9, 2010. The new location is two doors down, on the same block, at 3834 Main Street, Riverside, California 92501. For information, call 951-827-3755 or visit <http://sweeney.ucr.edu>.

The gallery and staff moved at the end of April into the new, three-story Culver Center, housed in the renovated, 19th Century Rouse Department Store located next to the UCR/California Museum of Photography. In the Culver Center, Sweeney's programming will expand significantly by including more performing arts, screenings, and large-scale installations, all to be presented in its own gallery in the heart of the Culver Center's two-story, 2,000-square-foot atrium.

UCR Sweeney Art Gallery first opened on campus in 1963. Located at Olmstead Hall, its first exhibition examined the work of the 19th-century American landscape painter Thomas Moran, and was reviewed in the New York Times. In 1978, the gallery moved on campus to the Watkins house where it had many exhibits. Notable ones include the groundbreaking *Bas Jan Ader Retrospective* (1999) and *Past Modern: The Singh Twins* (2003).

In 2006, UCR Sweeney Art Gallery moved to a new location in downtown Riverside at 3800 Main Street. While there, it presented many solo and group exhibitions that have contributed scholarship to the field, have received international attention, and have made a conscious effort to be a bridge between the campus and community. Some of the highlights include *Gabriela León: Sunday Walk to the Zocalo of Oaxaca* (2007), *The Signs Pile Up: Paintings by Pedro Álvarez* (2008), *Absurd Recreation: Contemporary Art from China* (2008), *Your Donations Do Our Work: Andrea Bowers and Suzanne Lacy* (2009), *Uncovered: A Pageant of Hip Hop Masters* (2009), *Intelligent Design: Interspecies Art* (2009), and *Mapping the Desert/Deserting the Map: An Interdisciplinary Response* (2010). When it reopens in October within the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts, the gallery will continue with its adventuresome programming and engagement with the community, beginning with *Bike Culture*.

When the two, side-by-side buildings that house UCR's California Museum of Photography and the Culver Center of the Arts, which includes Sweeney, are considered collectively, they constitute the third largest arts organization in the UC system after Berkeley Art Museum and UCLA's Hammer Museum. Additionally, in all of California's 10-campus UC system and 23-campus CSU system they represent together one of less than a handful of museums that is located off-campus, which places it in a unique position to be a bridge between campus and community.

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